I CLAIM

1. A method for improving the operational performance of a database system, the method comprising:

determining whether an instruction or operation adds information or removes information from the database system, wherein for an add operation, the information is first added to an 'out' table, and wherein for a remove operation, the information is first removed from an 'in' table.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information is added to the 'in' table after being added to the 'out' table.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information is removed from the 'out' table after being removed from the 'in' table.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising determining whether the instruction modifies information, and if so, performing both the add and remove operations.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the instructions are implemented via a directory system such as X.500 or LDAP.

6. A method of replicating data from a master database to a slave database, each database having information organized in 'in' tables and 'out' tables, the method comprising:

updating the master database by determining whether an instruction or operation adds information or removes information from the database, wherein for an add operation, the information is first added to the 'out' table, and wherein for a remove operation, the information is first removed from the 'in' table, and

updating the slave database in accordance with the same method as applied to the master database.

7. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein an updating process as applied to the master database is placed in a replication queue prior to being passed onto the slave database.

8. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein information updated in the master database is placed in a replication queue prior to being passed onto the slave database.

9. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the slave database is updated in the same sequence of instructions or operations as the master database.

10. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the instructions are implemented via a directory system such as X.500 or LDAP.

11. A directory service arrangement including:

a database using a plurality of tables, each table having a plurality of rows and columns, and storing arbitrary data, and

means for processing an instruction or operation by determining whether the instruction or operation adds information or removes information from the database, wherein for an add operation, the information is first added to the 'out' table, and wherein for a remove operation, the information is first removed from the 'in' table.

12. The arrangement as claimed in claim 11 being a directory services system such as X.500 or LDAP.

13. A directory service arrangement including:

a master database using a plurality of tables, each table having a plurality of rows and columns, and storing arbitrary data,

a slave database using a plurality of tables, each table having a plurality of rows and columns, and storing arbitrary data, and

means for replicating between master and slave databases, wherein the master database is updated by determining whether an instruction or operation adds information or removes information from the database, wherein for an add operation, the information is first added to the 'out' table, and wherein for a remove operation, the information is first removed from the 'in' table,

and wherein the slave database is updated in accordance with the same method as applied to the master database.

14. The arrangement as claimed in claim 13 being a directory services system such as X.500 or LDAP.